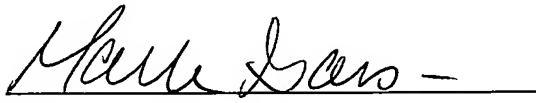


**Appln No. 10/552,171**  
**Amdt date December 22, 2005**

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1, 3-4, 7-11, 13-14, 16-20, 22-24, 27, 32-33, and 35 have been amended to place them in better form for U.S. practice. Claim 36 has been added. It is respectfully requested that the changes to the claims be carefully reviewed by the Examiner and entered prior to examination.

Respectfully submitted,  
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By   
Mark Garscia  
Reg. No. 31,953  
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